



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
SEOUL BUREAU



MSK-7006
3 March 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report - Seoul Bureau - February 1987

I. GENERAL

Lt. Gen. Louis C. Menetrey will succeed Gen. William Livsey as Commander of U.S. Forces in Korea, and of the UN Command in Korea. The announcement of General Menetrey's nomination was released in Seoul on 20 February. General Menetrey will assume command in June. He served previous tours in Korea as Commander of the ROK-U.S. Combined Field Army, and as an assistant division commander of the 2d Infantry Division. The North Korean press agency, KCNA, reported General Menetrey's nomination on the 26th, noting that while assigned to the 2d Infantry Division he was one of the "chief culprits" of the 1976 incident at Panmunjom in which North Korean forces killed two U.S. Army officers with axes. KCNA called General Menetrey a "vicious murderer" and said his nomination demonstrates the U.S. intention to intensify "war provocation moves against the North." The Bureau passed copies of this item directly to General Livsey's office, at the request of his deputy chief of staff.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. "Team Spirit-87" began on 19 February, and will last until early May. The large-scale annual exercise has occasioned voluminous amounts of material from Pyongyang every year, and 1987 should be no different. Pyongyang's reaction during the first week of the exercise was relatively restrained, but by the end of the month Pyongyang radio had carried numerous commentaries as well as reportage on rallies in the North denouncing the exercise.

2. The surprise event of the month was the unexpected arrival of 11 North Korean defectors in Seoul on 8 February. The group, the largest number of North Koreans to defect at one time since the Korean war,

arrived in Taiwan on the morning of the 8th, after spending several weeks in Japan following a night-time escape from the DPRK by boat. While in Japan, the group said they wanted to defect to "a warm country in the south," without naming the ROK as their destination of choice. Apparently it took some time for all members of the group to agree to seek asylum in the ROK; they finally decided to come to Seoul after meeting in Taiwan with a former North Korean pilot. The first report on the group's arrival at Kimpo Airport was carried by Seoul radio late in the evening of the 8th, after the editor had left the Bureau. The Korean duty monitor called him at home, and texted the radio report while the editor was returning to the Embassy. Pyongyang did not take the defection with good grace. KCNA carried several commentaries and DPRK Red Cross statements on the "kidnapping," claiming that the leader of the group had tried to poison his wife and had lived with his brother's wife for several years before he was "enticed" to leave the North. Pyongyang's domestic media remained silent on the entire affair.

B. Lateral Services

During February the Bureau responded to a special request from the Office of the Special Advisor, CINCUNC (General Livsey's chief personal advisor). The OSA had acquired several lengthy pamphlets displayed at Seoul National University, and asked for Bureau assistance in determining whether articles in the pamphlets came directly from the North Korean press. The deputy chief and senior Korean monitors prepared a three-page memorandum explaining that the articles were not published in NODONG SINMUN or broadcast on DPRK radio, but that they may have derived in part from items broadcast on the clandestine Voice of National Salvation. The memo noted that the radio is heard well in parts of Seoul and the South, and that the large number of articles, commentaries and roundtable talks broadcast by the station provide a considerable amount of material for pamphlet writers, while also providing propaganda lines and correct ideological orientation. Embassy reporting officers also received copies of the memo.

III. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

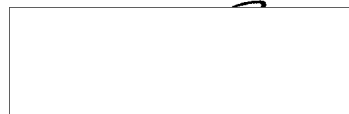
1. Chinese monitor returned to duty on 2 March. had been on maternity leave since early in December.

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2. The Bureau's recruiting effort for Japanese monitors, on behalf of Okinawa Bureau, appears to be entering the final phase. Security and medical clearances for the two prospective monitors have been received. With the assistance of the Embassy Personnel Office, we are now in the process of acquiring passports and Japanese work visas for the new employees and their dependents. This is expected to proceed quickly, and the two monitors may be able to travel to Okinawa by the end of March.

IV. VISITS

General Edward J. Heinz, Director of the IC Staff, visited the Bureau for a 2-hour briefing and orientation on 4 February. General Heinz was in Seoul as part of a tour of facilities in the Far East. He received a full briefing on Bureau operations, and took the occasion to view film clips the Bureau has compiled from Pyongyang television, showing Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il greeting visitors and speaking in a variety of settings.



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Chief, Seoul Bureau

Attachment
Monthly Production Report

cc: Chief, Okinawa Bureau
Chief, Hong Kong Bureau
Deputy Chief, Bangkok Bureau

Seoul Bureau Production Report for February 1987

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	545210
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	127190
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1287

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	13265.00 min.	5510.00 min.	100.23 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

CHINA		
Beijing International service in Korean to Korea	580	
Beijing City Service in Mandarin	300	
Changchun Jilin Provincial Service in Mandarin	7400	
Harbin Heilongjiang Provincial Service in Mandarin	8630	
Hohhot Nei Monggol Regional Service in Mandarin	4600	
Jinan Shandong Provincial Service in Mandarin	6860	
Shenyang Liaoning Provincial Service in Mandarin	14650	
Shijiazhuang Hebei Provincial Service in Mandarin	0	
Tianjin City Service in Mandarin	4900	
Beijing BEIJING RIBAO in Chinese		2220
Changchun JILIN RIBAO in Chinese		7780
Harbin HEILONGJIANG RIBAO in Chinese		1450
Jinan DAZHONG RIBAO in Chinese		700
Shenyang DONGBEI JINGJI BAO in Chinese		750
Shenyang LIAONING RIBAO in Chinese		5800
Shijiazhuang HEBEI RIBAO in Chinese		5250

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Tianjin TIANJIN RIBAO in Chinese			13150
CLANDESTINE (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea	22850		
KOREA (NORTH) Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean	178730		
Pyongyang Television Service in Korean	1700		
Pyongyang KCNA in English		151460	
Pyongyang KULLUJA in Korean			600
Pyongyang NODONG SINBUN in Korean			7820
KOREA (SOUTH) Seoul Domestic Service in Korean	700		
Seoul Television Service in Korean	0		
Seoul YUNHAP in English		24110	
Seoul CHOSUN ILBO in Korean			3450
Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean			950
Seoul Editorial Report on ROK Media Korean			0
Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean			800
Seoul KYONGHYANG SINBUN in Korean			350
Seoul SEOUL SINBUN in Korean			3200
Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English			31130
Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English			24800
Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean			3350
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS Moscow International Service in Korean	3650		